

Demographic Turning Points for the United States: Population Projections from 2020 to 2060

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*This presentation is released to inform interested parties of ongoing research and to encourage discussion.
Any views expressed are those of the authors and not necessarily those of the U.S. Census Bureau.*

Our Latest Projections

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: TUESDAY, MARCH 13, 2018

Older People Projected to Outnumber Children for First Time in U.S. History

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NATIONAL

Projections Show An Aging U.S. Population

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THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

U.S.

Elderly in U.S. Are Projected to Outnumber Children for First Time

Census Bureau predicts milestone will be hit within 17 years



≡ Forbes



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Older Adults Projected To Outnumber Children For First Time In U.S. History

Robin Seaton Jefferson Contributor

If you're feeling old, you're in good company and apparently a lot of it. New statistics from the U.S. Census Bureau show that for the first time in U.S. history, older people are projected to outnumber children. And they expect it to happen in a little over a decade.

Highlights

- By 2060, the United States is projected to grow by 79 million people
- Slowing growth
- Aging population
- More diversity

Issue Discovered in Original Series

- Compared to 2014, infant deaths nearly doubled

The Fix

Corrected the programming error with the aggregated data

- **Changes were minimal** in the revised series (~0.2% difference in 2060)

Cohort-Component Method

$$P_t = P_{t-1} + B_{t-1,t} - D_{t-1,t} + M_{t-1,t}$$

Where:

P_t = Population at time t

P_{t-1} = Population at time $t - 1$

$B_{t-1,t}$ = Births in the interval $t - 1$ to t

$D_{t-1,t}$ = Deaths in the interval $t - 1$ to t

$M_{t-1,t}$ = Net International Migration in the interval $t - 1$ to t

Cohort-Component Method (cont.)

Base Population: The most recent postcensal estimates available at the time - July 1, 2016

Sex

Race

**Hispanic
origin**

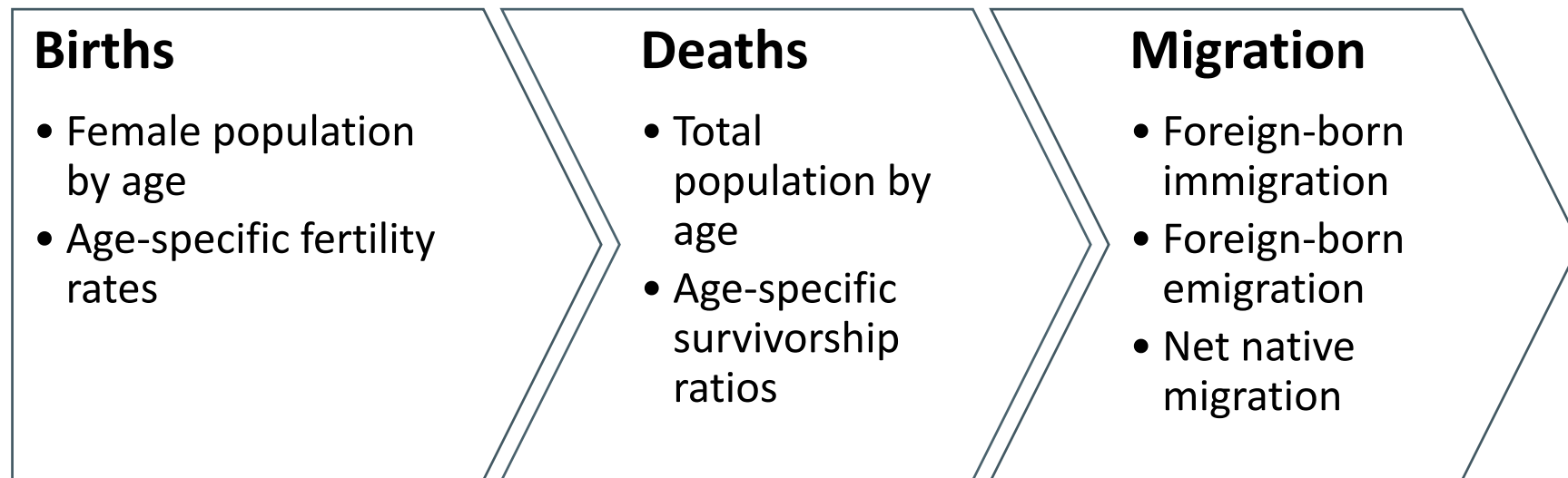
Age

Nativity

- American Community Survey data is used to distribute across base

Cohort-Component Method (cont.)

- Each component is projected separately by **age, sex, race, Hispanic origin, and nativity**.



Improvements Made in 2017 Series

Updated data

- V2016 Population Estimates
- Newest NCHS data

Fertility

- Updated fertility groups
- Native-born White fertility separated from native-born 'Other Races'
- Native-born 'Other Races' includes Black and American Indian and Alaska Native

Mortality

- Mortality by nativity
- Higher death rates and lower life expectancy for native-born

Highlights: Population Growth

Highlights: Population Growth

- The US population is projected to grow by 79 million from about 326 million today to 404 million in 2060
- Projected to cross the 400-million person threshold in 2058

Population growth projected to slow down

2.3 million

people per year
from *now until*
2030

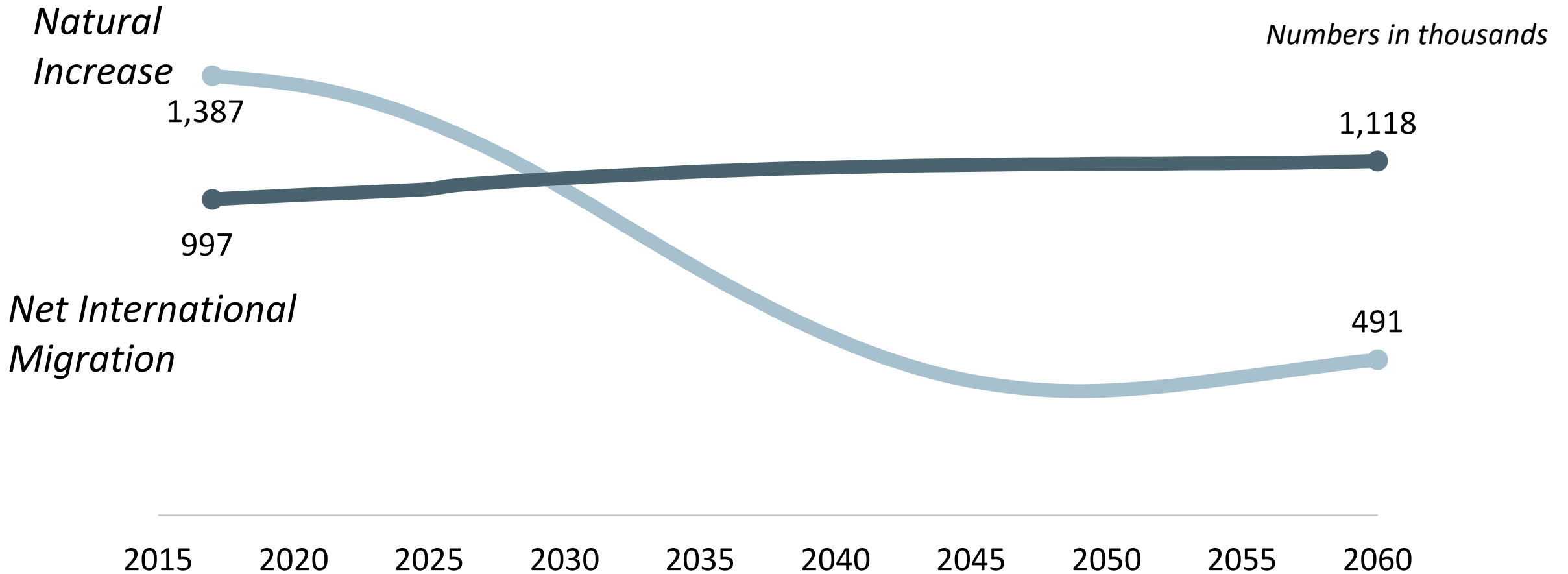
1.9 million

people per year
from *2030 to*
2040

1.6 million

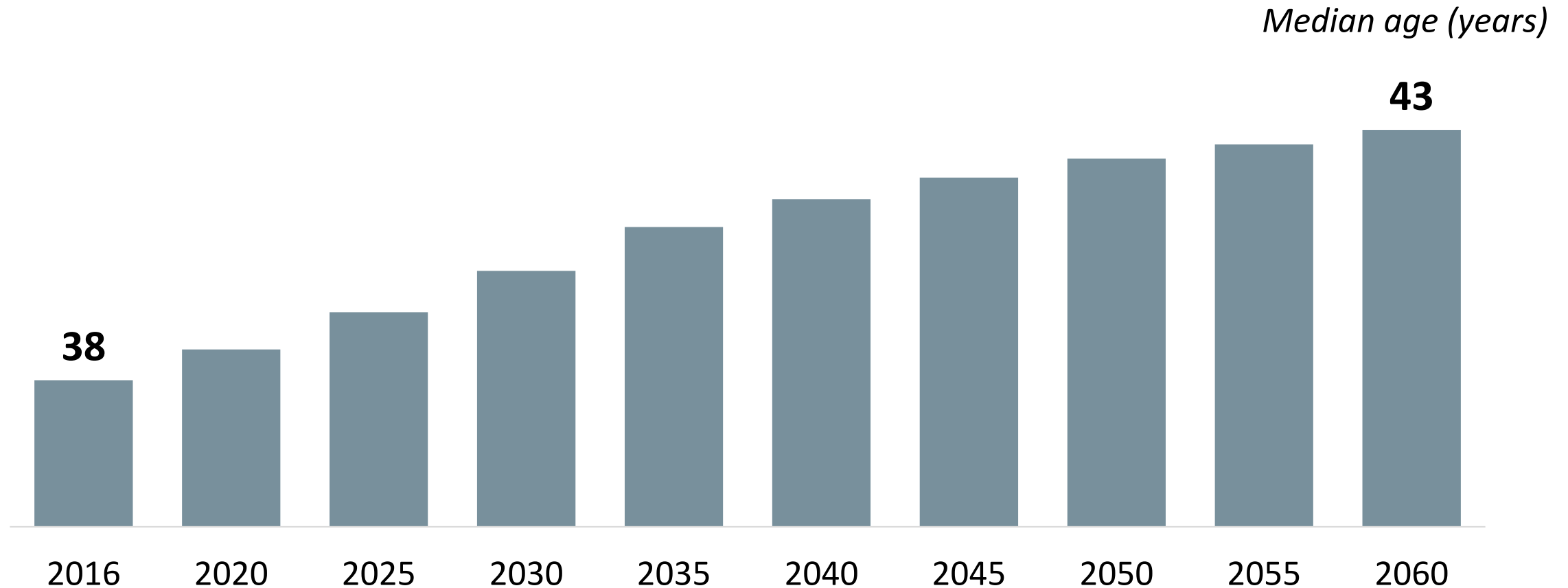
people per year
from *2040 to 2060*

Net international migration projected to outpace natural increase as main driving force of population growth

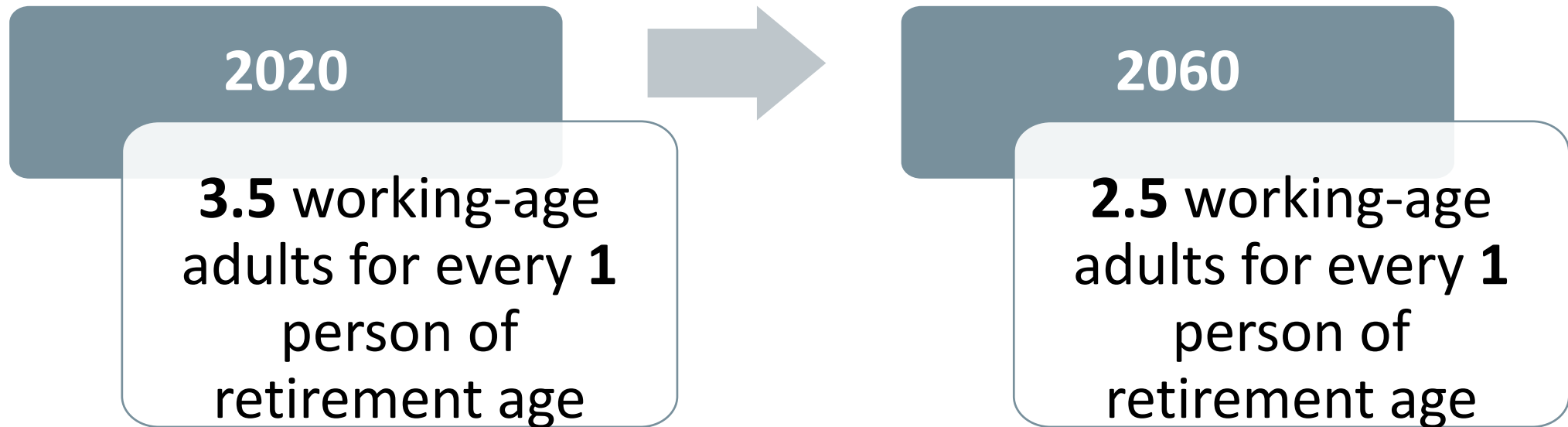


Highlights: Aging

Median age expected to rise from 38 in 2016 to 43 by 2060



Old-Age Dependency Ratio



By 2034, the 65+ population will outnumber children for the first time in US history

**Population under
18 years old**

Population 65+

76,531,215

76,959,100

Highlights: Race and Ethnicity

Two or More Races projected to be the fastest-growing race or ethnicity group

1

Two or More Races

- **Natural increase** primary driver

2

Asian Alone

- **International migration** primary driver

3

Hispanic

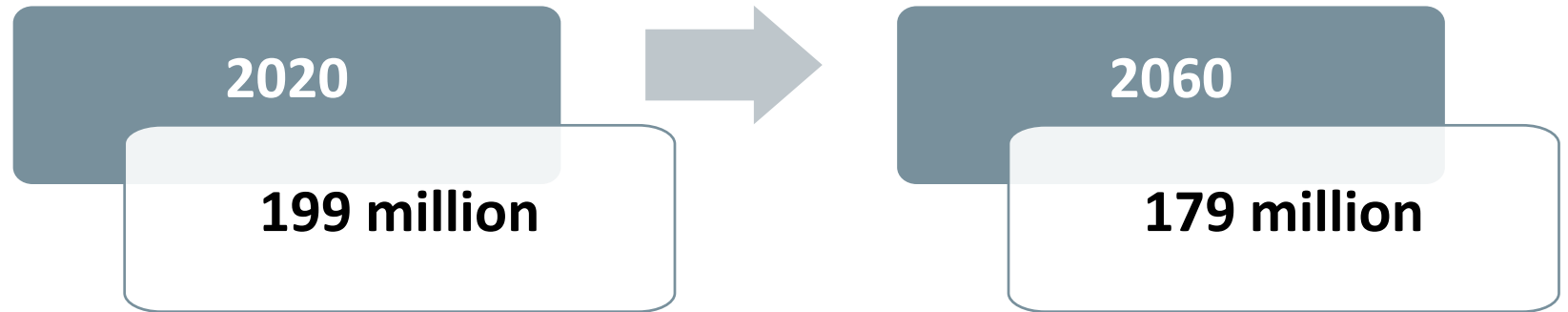
- **Natural increase** primary driver

By 2020, no single race alone group will make up more than 50% of the population of children

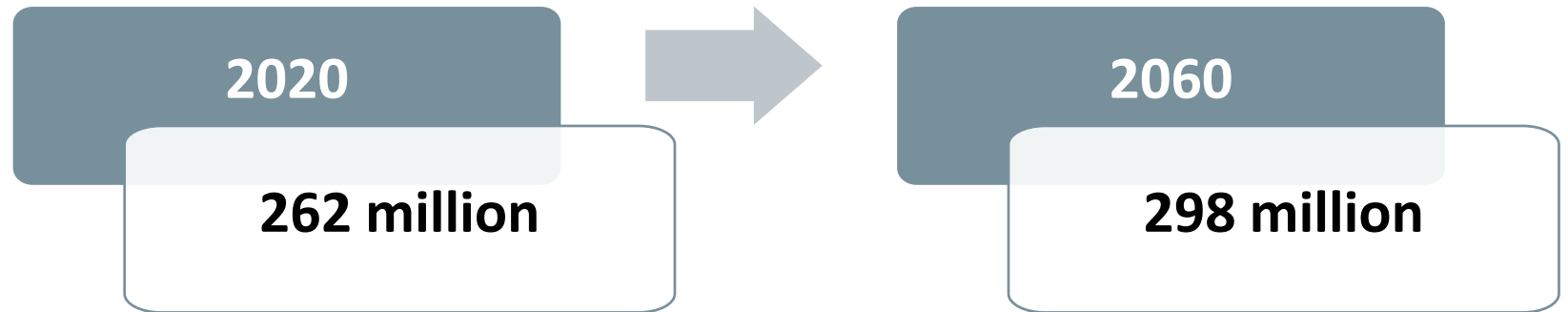
- Represents a more pluralistic United States
- Younger cohorts changing quicker than older cohorts
- Increasing diversity and projected aging contribute to the changing demographic makeup of United States
- “Alone or in combination” race groups growing

The Projected Decline and Growth of the White Population

Non-Hispanic White Alone



**White Alone or in Combination
(regardless of Hispanic origin)**



Newest Projections Products

Mortality Report

- Historical and projected life expectancy
- Life expectancy by nativity

Inputs to Projections

- ASFR, ASDR, Life Expectancy, Survivorship Ratios, TFR

Projections After 2020

- TBD

Key Takeaways

**2017
projections
series
featured
major
improvements**

**The US is
projected to
become older
and more
diverse**

**Supplemental
data products**

Thank you!

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